

In the Written Description:

On page 13, paragraph beginning at line 5, amend as follows:

The switch application software 81 includes a software information processor 811 for receiving cell disposal or the like from a storage cell number monitor ~~82~~ 821 and communicating with the switch control terminal, a software controller 812 for calculating a cell reading priority, and a software data section 813 storing office data of a switch (secured as an area within the storage unit 12).

On page 13, paragraph beginning at line 12, amend as follows:

OS 82 includes ~~a~~ the storage cell number monitor 821 for monitoring the number of cells stored in a QoS buffer within the buffer 3, 5.

On page 15, paragraph beginning at line 6, amend as follows:

Regarding the method to distribute transmitted cells to the corresponding QoS buffer, the line section 2 determines a corresponding QoS buffer through the information gathered upon establishing a path. In addition, the line section 2, analyzes the ATM cell header of each transmitted ATM cell in order to reconfirm the QoS buffer to be sent to. This type of cell distribution is applicable to the present invention.

On page 16, paragraph beginning at line 9, amend as follows:

Referring to Fig. 5, in the QoS buffer A, the WRR value is set to 3 as an initial value. In the QoS buffer B, the WRR value is set to 2 as an initial value. In the QoS buffers C, D, and E, the WRR value is set to 1 as an initial value. The initial value is set in a system configuration stage. For example, an operator enters the initial value through the control terminal 600 to save it in the software data section 813 (within the storage unit 12) in Fig. 2. The operator can change the initial WRR value through the control terminal 600. The table is divided for the buffers 3 and 5. In each table, the software data section 813 stores the WRR value corresponding to a current QoS buffer for each buffer (line port). The software data section 813 can be directly accessed from the buffer 3 or 5.

On page 19, paragraph beginning at line 25, amend as follows:

As the above-mentioned method of calculating a new ~~ERR~~ WRR value in a cell disposal time, the method may be employed of calculating a new value using an initial WRR value read out of the software data section 813 (for example, of doubling the initial value). Moreover, the method may be used of calculating a new WRR value using a current WRR value read out of the software data section 813 (for example, of doubling a current WRR value).

On page 24, paragraph beginning at line 2, amend as follows:

The WRR value can be changed in accordance with a command input to the control terminal 600 and the message regarding the change is automatically displayed on the control terminal. Hence, the operator can grasp when and how the priority (~~ERR~~ WRR) has changed.

On page 24, paragraph beginning at line 13, amend as follows:

That is, referring to Fig. 8, the cell reading rate changes at the stage that the remaining buffer amount (a difference between a maximum cell amount and a storage cell amount) drops to 10% of the maximum cell amount of a QoS buffer in the QoS class. The buffer 3 or 5 monitors a threshold of the cell number corresponding to 10%. When the cell number exceeds the threshold, the controller 1b is interrupted to start up the speed change function process. Thereafter, the cell reading rate is changed ~~every~~ and the remaining amount reduces (e.g. to 20 or 30%). After the cell reading rate exceeds the threshold of the cell number corresponding to 10%, the buffer 3 or 5 detects that the cell reading rate has reached a threshold corresponding to 20% or 30%. The interrupt proceeds to the controller 11 to start up the rate change function process. In this case, for example, the WRR value corresponding to an initial value is set to 1. The WRR value corresponding to 20% (meaning that the remaining buffer amount is 10% of the maximum buffer amount) is set to 2. The WRR value corresponding to 10% is set to 3. The WRR value corresponding to 30% is set to 1 (like the initial value previously stored in the software data section 813). Regarding the sequence flow shown in Fig. 6, the rate change function process is handled similarly by substituting the

detection of an occurrence of cell disposal lowered by 10%, 20% or 30% so that the WRR value is changed.

On page 26, paragraph beginning at line 13, amend as follows:

The present system can be employed even for Per VC queuing which implements buffering for every ~~the~~-virtual connection (VC) shown in Fig. 9. In the above-mentioned embodiments, the cell reading is performed for every QoS class. However, the system that reads cells for each VC monitors the cell disposal for each VC.